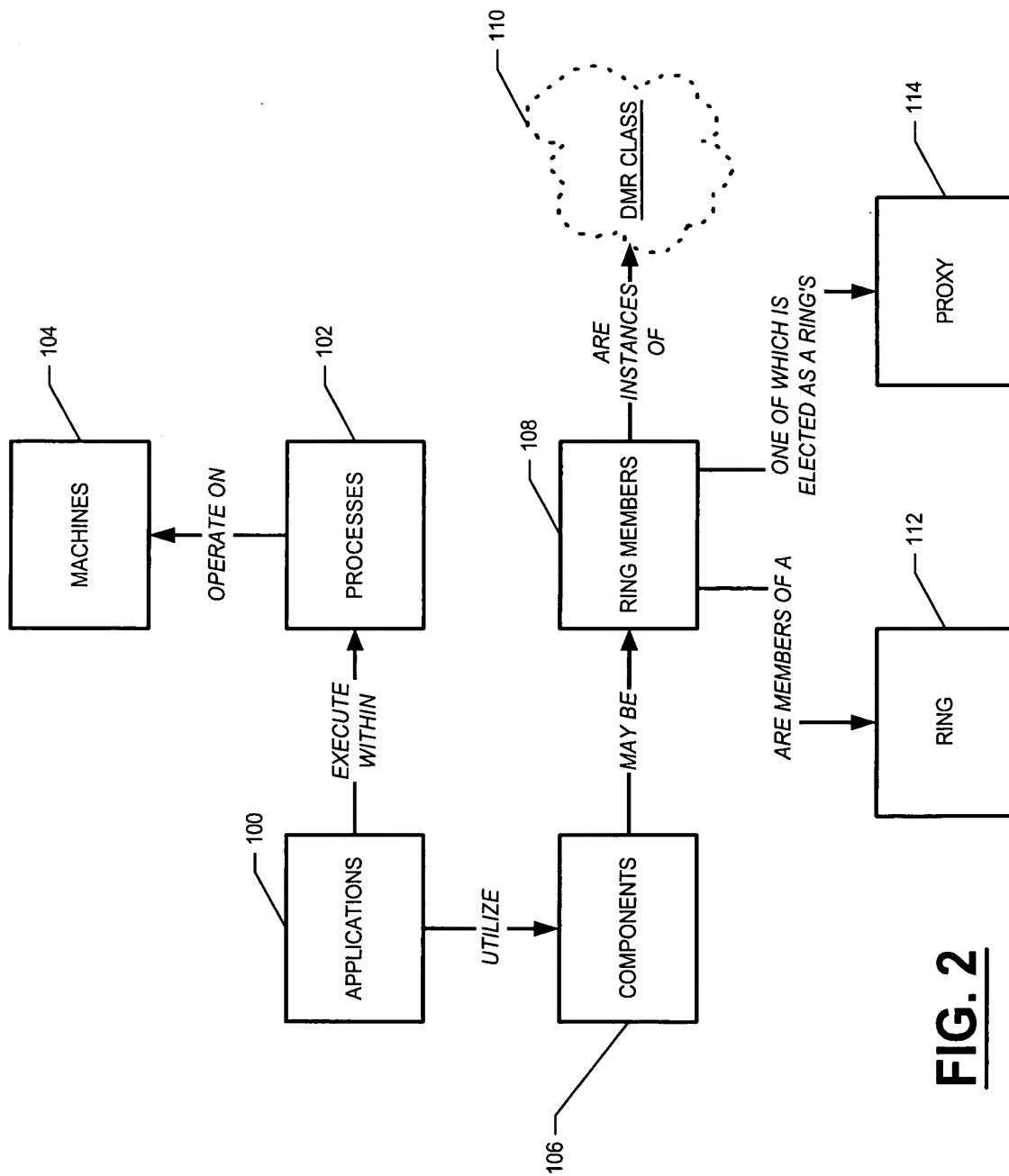
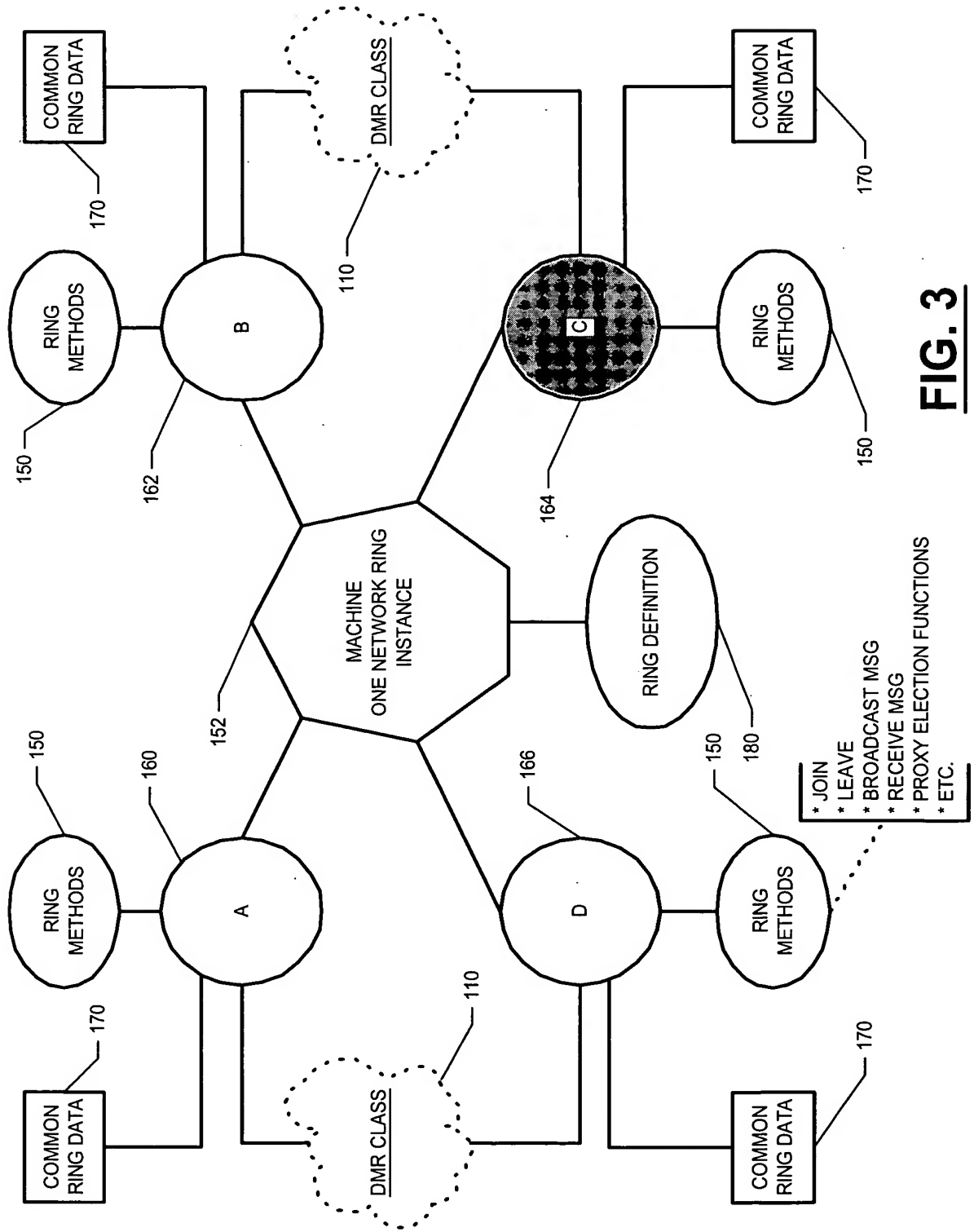


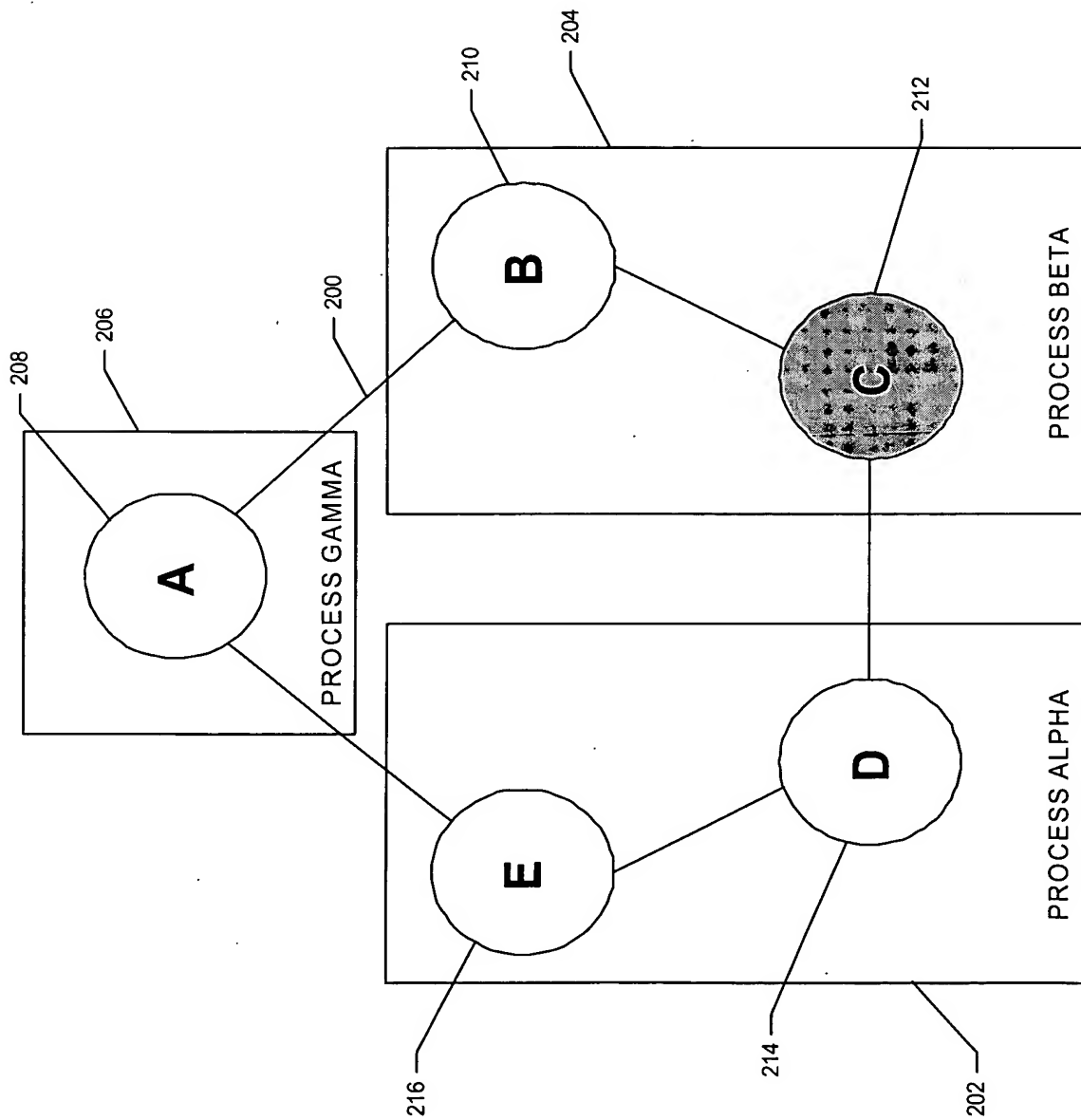
**FIG. 1**



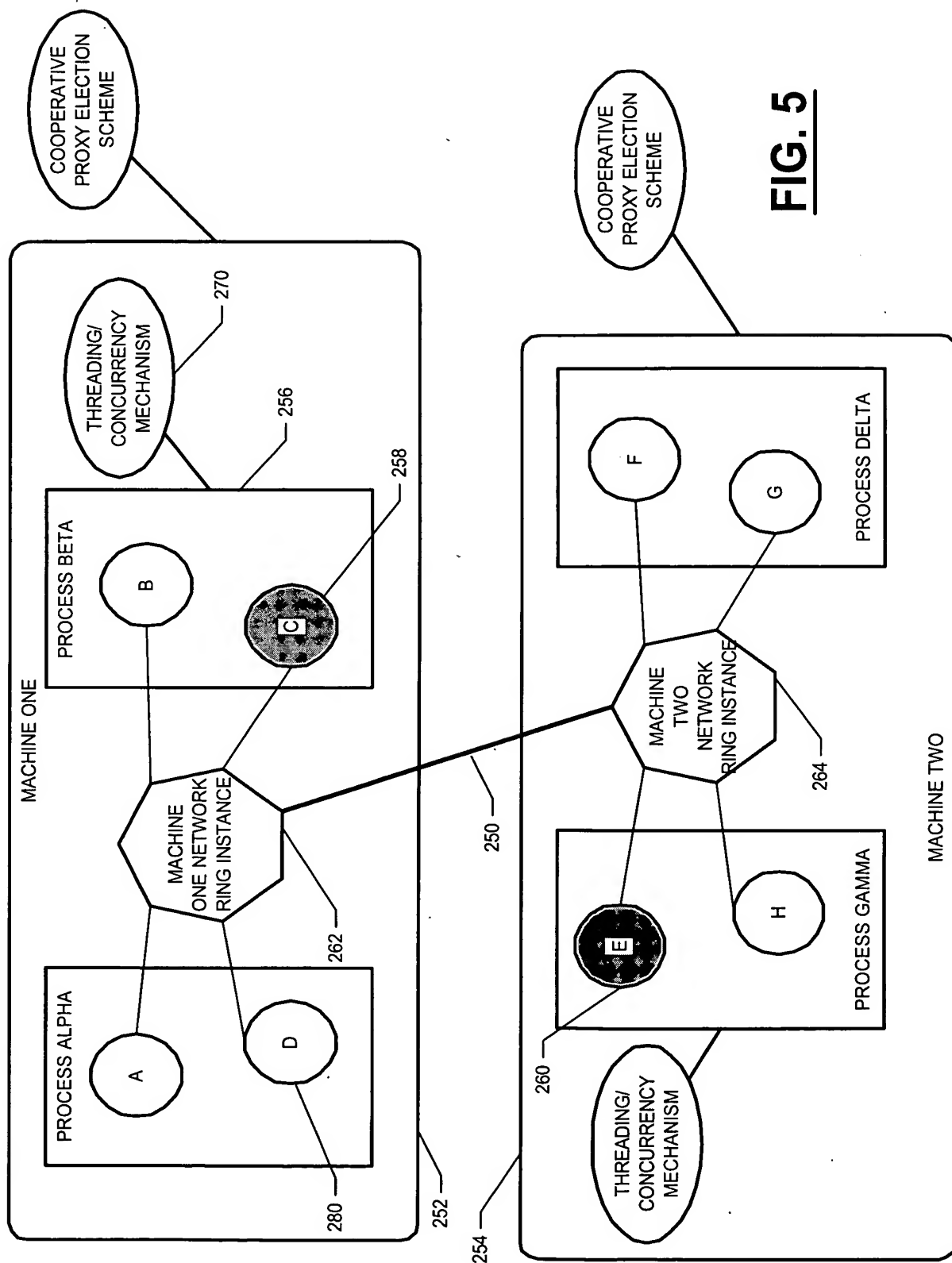
**FIG. 2**



**FIG. 3**

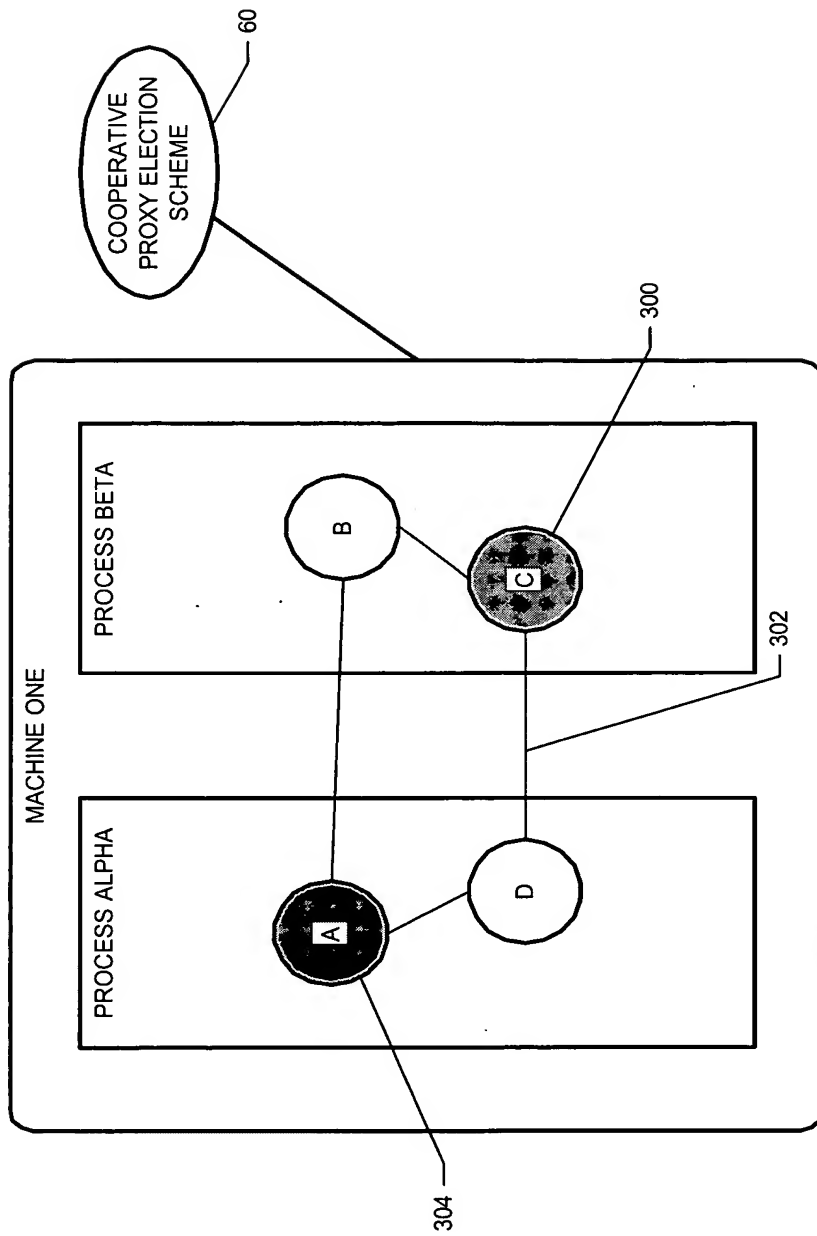


**FIG. 4**

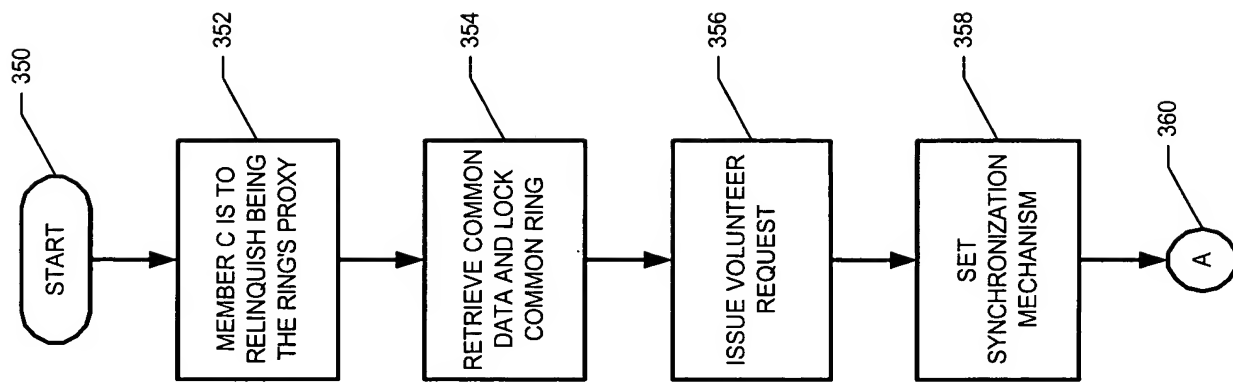


**FIG. 5**

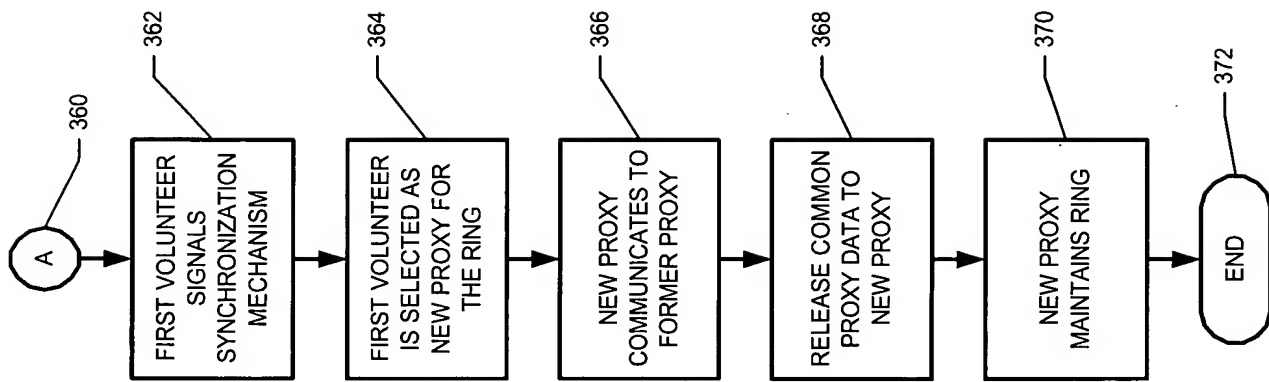
FIG. 6 is a block diagram of a system 60 illustrating a cooperative proxy election scheme. The system 60 includes a machine 300, which includes process alpha 302 and process beta 304. Process alpha 302 includes node A 304 and node D. Process beta 304 includes node B and node C 300. Node A 304 and node C 300 are shaded, indicating they are active or selected nodes. Node A 304 is connected to node D, and node C 300 is connected to node B. The system 60 is labeled as a cooperative proxy election scheme 60.



**FIG. 6**



**FIG. 7**



**FIG. 8**